

**From:** [Cello Azul](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 4:53:43 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, “the last safe zone” in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Dalia Arafeh](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:26:08 AM

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Thank you,

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

---

**From:** Selena Arbid  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 9:28 AM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor  
**Cc:** cityclerk; PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Vote YES to Pass a Ceasefire Resolution

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Dear Mayor, Councilmembers and Council staff:

I'm writing to urge you to vote YES on the ceasefire resolution when it comes up on the 18th. Pasadena should join the dozens of American cities that have passed ceasefire resolutions. Gaza is running out of time, and needs us to act now.

Pasadena city council has a proud history of standing for justice, even though the council does not exert direct control over national policy. They have spoken out on issues of grave importance in the past - massacres in Artsakh, reproductive freedom, protecting immigrants - this issue deserves the same consideration.

Approximately 40,000 Palestinians have been killed, with tens of thousands more under the rubble. Two-thirds of the dead are women and children. Famine and disease are spreading, and deaths will escalate sharply without an immediate ceasefire and an inflow of aid.

The United Nations has repeatedly voted to pass a ceasefire resolution because the world sees that what is happening in Palestine is not self-defense, but ethnic cleansing and genocide. The refusal by the US to allow the world to speak with one voice is one of the reasons we are here.

Ceasefire is the way to ensure the safe return of all hostages. This is why families of Israeli hostages have been pleading with their government to agree to a ceasefire.

To say that Oct 7 was the end of a ceasefire is simply untrue. Prior to October 7th, 2023 was the deadliest year on record for Palestinians killed by Israel, with 507 Palestinians killed in the West Bank alone. Violence by Israeli forces and also by Israeli settlers (which has been encouraged by the Israeli government) had been escalating and unrelenting leading up to October 7th.

Israel's right to defend itself does not allow it to commit war crimes. Self-defense is not a blank check for genocide. Mass starvation is not self-defense. Mass displacement is not self-defense. Destroying 85 percent of Gaza's homes, as well as schools, hospitals, museums and houses of worship is not self-defense.

Israel has again attacked Palestinian civilians waiting in line to get aid. This time, Israeli forces have killed 80 and injured up to 200 people.

Palestinians do not have time; please act with courage and swiftness to pass this resolution.

**From:** [Anne Arikian](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 3:43:30 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
2. Israel has accepted terms laid out by international negotiators for an extended ceasefire and drastic increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza. It is Hamas that has thus far rejected such a ceasefire.
3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,  
Anne Arikian

## Iraheta, Alba

---

**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2024 5:48 PM  
**To:** Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Kenebrew, Jerice; Soo, Christine; Haskett, John  
**Subject:** FW: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

---

**From:** Timothy Arnold <tarnold@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2024 5:47:27 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Gordo, Victor <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Cc:** Hampton, Tyron <THampton@cityofpasadena.net>; Williams, Felicia <fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net>; Jones, Justin <justinjones@cityofpasadena.net>; Masuda, Gene <gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net>; Rivas, Jessica <jerivas@cityofpasadena.net>; Madison, Steve <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; Lyon, Jason <jlyon@cityofpasadena.net>; cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

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Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting "Yes" on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday. Please act now to save the lives of countless Palestinians, please

Thank you,  
Timothy

**From:** [flavie\\_aronowicz](mailto:flavie_aronowicz)  
**To:** [action@endjewhated.com](mailto:action@endjewhated.com)  
**Subject:** Vote NO to a ceasefire  
**Date:** Thursday, March 14, 2024 5:14:32 PM

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Dear Council Members,

We are reaching out in opposition to a ceasefire resolution that will be proposed at your meeting.

While this appears to be a resolution in favor of peace, in fact it is a propaganda move to incite anti-Democracy, anti-Israel, and anti-Jewish sentiments. We urge you to refuse to even consider the resolution.

These politically motivated resolutions are circulating in “toolkits” sent out by the Committee on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) and other terrorist network support groups in the U.S. [1]. The toolkits overtly state that they do not care about the wording; they just want to be able to claim that the city/county has denounced Israel. They have unfailingly proved divisive to the community and have had the effect of pitting sides against each other in antipathy rather than bonding them together in a mutual desire for peace.

There is no possibility of a ceasefire while Hamas is still in power. As Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) said, “Israel must destroy every element of Hamas,” who’s sole and sinister purpose is to eradicate Israel and the Jewish people [2]. For your reference, we have provided excerpts from the Hamas charter below [3].

Hamas has rejected proposals for months-long pauses in fighting simply in exchange for releasing the hostages. They have vowed to draw Israel into an eternal war, manipulating public opinion and thwarting the process of normalization underway between Israel and several Arab countries. Please note that there was in fact a ceasefire in place on October 7, when Hamas slaughtered Israelis, Americans, and Foreign Nationals in the most barbaric ways seen in centuries. Hamas vows to repeat this over and over even after a new ceasefire agreement is reached.

Furthermore, we urge you not to approve any resolution whose language parrots a false narrative claiming that Jewish people in Israel are colonizers engaged in a 75-year occupation. In fact there has been a Jewish presence in Israel for the past 3,000 years. They are neither colonizers, nor “occupiers” in Gaza - Gaza has been independent since 2005 when Israel removed all its residents and military from Gaza. In 2006, Gazans voted Hamas into power and they have been under Hamas rule since. Nonetheless, anti-Israel and anti-Jewish voices claim that Israel is occupying Gaza and that “resistance is justified”, spreading dangerous misinformation about a democratic country that is used as a justification for terrorism.

As a city council, you represent your local residents in municipal decisions. If the city council were to engage in international affairs, you would likely need to vote on various matters, such as the ongoing Syrian war, the Yemen Civil War, the Rohingya Crisis, the South Sudanese

Civil War, and numerous other global issues.

Sadly, ceasefire resolutions have been considered in many city councils in the past few months, and each time rather than enhance peace, they have brought with them vitriol, which has contributed to the 400% increase in anti-Semitism in this country [4]. We have most recently witnessed alarming Neo-Nazi marches in Nashville, the apprehension of an individual plotting to harm the Jewish community in Indiana, physical harm inflicted on Jews on college campuses, the murder of a Jewish man in San Diego and the unsettling cancellation of all college classes in Queens due to a credible terrorist threat.

Normalizing hate against Jews fuels white supremacy, which is seeing an unprecedented growth. The normalization of hate against Jews inadvertently is going to impact ALL minorities. We don't need any more hate in this country. We cannot regress as a country.

Jewish people do not advocate for unnecessary conflicts; it's not in our nature. Our priority is the safe return of our innocent civilians who are being held hostage, possibly under very violent conditions. Additionally, we must protect ourselves from a hostile terrorist organization that harbors destructive intentions towards Jews. Let's be clear, Hamas is waging a war against the Jewish people and democracy itself. Senior Hamas official Mahmoud Al-Zahar stated on December 12, 2022, "The entire 510 million square kilometers of Planet Earth will come under [a system] where there is no injustice, no oppression, no treachery, no Zionism, no treacherous Christianity." (source: <http://tinyurl.com/5n8298r4>)

Furthermore, with all the international conflicts that have not merited your attention, deciding to suddenly weigh in on Israel's foreign policy would send a dual message: a) that a democracy has no right to defend itself against barbaric terrorism, and b) that you hold Israel to a different standard than other countries.

The European Parliament has passed a stipulation that any call for a ceasefire should be conditional on the complete dismantling of Hamas and the immediate and unconditional release of hostages. We hope you would agree.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David and Flavie Aronowicz

82% of Americans support Israel's fight against Hamas" (Harvard Harris Poll). [5]

References:

[1] CAIR toolkit: [https://www.cair.com/press\\_releases/cair-releases-community-toolkit-on-promoting-gaza-ceasefire-resolutions-by-state-local-governments/](https://www.cair.com/press_releases/cair-releases-community-toolkit-on-promoting-gaza-ceasefire-resolutions-by-state-local-governments/)

[2] <https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/4336113-rubio-activists-Israel-hamas-cease-fire>

[3] [https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th\\_century/hamas.asp](https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp)

[4] <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-antisemitic-incidents-up-about-400-since-israel-hamas-war-began-report-says-2023-10-25/>

[5] <https://harvardharrispoll.com>

Excerpts from Hamas Charter:

1. 'Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.' (Preamble)
2. 'The day the enemies usurp part of Muslim land, Jihad becomes the individual duty of every Muslim. In the face of the Jews' usurpation, it is compulsory that the banner of Jihad be raised.' (Article 15)
3. 'Ranks will close, fighters joining other fighters, and masses everywhere in the Islamic world will come forward in response to the call of duty, loudly proclaiming: 'Hail to Jihad!'. This cry will reach the heavens and will go on being resounded until liberation is achieved, the invaders vanquished and Allah's victory comes about.' (Article 33)
4. There is no solution for the Palestinian problem except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals, and international conferences are a waste of time and futile.' (Article 13)
5. 'The Day of Judgment will not come about until Muslims fight Jews and kill them. Then, the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will cry out: 'O Muslim, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him.' (Article 7) [3].



## Kenebrew, Jerice

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**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:49 PM  
**To:** Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Kenebrew, Jerice; Soo, Christine; Haskett, John  
**Subject:** FW: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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**From:** Asal  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:48:18 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Gordo, Victor <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Cc:** cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net>; Williams, Felicia <fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net>; Masuda, Gene <gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net>; Rivas, Jessica <jerivas@cityofpasadena.net>; Jones, Justin <justinjones@cityofpasadena.net>; Lyon, Jason <jlyon@cityofpasadena.net>; Madison, Steve <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; Hampton, Tyron <THampton@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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**From:** Adam Asea  
**To:** Gordo, Victor  
**Cc:** Hampton, Tyron; Williams, Felicia; Jones, Justin; Masuda, Gene; Rivas, Jessica; Madison, Steve; Lyon, Jason; cityclerk  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 5:45:28 PM

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Warmly,  
Adam Asea

**From:** Joanne Asher  
**To:** [action@endjewhatred.com](mailto:action@endjewhatred.com)  
**Subject:** Vote NO to a ceasefire  
**Date:** Thursday, March 14, 2024 7:22:07 PM

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References:

[1] CAIR toolkit: [https://www.cair.com/press\\_releases/cair-releases-community-toolkit-on-promoting-gaza-ceasefire-resolutions-by-state-local-governments/](https://www.cair.com/press_releases/cair-releases-community-toolkit-on-promoting-gaza-ceasefire-resolutions-by-state-local-governments/)

[2] <https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/4336113-rubio-activists-Israel-hamas-cease-fire>

[3] [https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th\\_century/hamas.asp](https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp)

[4] <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-antisemitic-incidents-up-about-400-since-israel->

[hamas-war-began-report-says-2023-10-25/](#)

[5] <https://harvardharrispoll.com>

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**From:** [Shirin Asherian](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 1:44:14 PM

Microsoft Word You don't often get email from shirin.asherian@pasadena.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

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I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

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I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,  
Shirin Asherian

**From:** [Tiffany Ashworth](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [cityclerk](#); [PublicComment-AutoResponse](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES to Pass a Ceasefire Resolution  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:38:47 PM

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Dear Mayor, Councilmembers and Council staff:

I'm writing to urge you to vote YES on the ceasefire resolution when it comes up on the 18th. Pasadena should join the dozens of American cities that have passed ceasefire resolutions. Gaza is running out of time, and needs us to act now.

Pasadena city council has a proud history of standing for justice, even though the council does not exert direct control over national policy. They have spoken out on issues of grave importance in the past - massacres in Artsakh, reproductive freedom, protecting immigrants - this issue deserves the same consideration.

Approximately 40,000 Palestinians have been killed, with tens of thousands more under the rubble. Two-thirds of the dead are women and children. Famine and disease are spreading, and deaths will escalate sharply without an immediate ceasefire and an inflow of aid.

The United Nations has repeatedly voted to pass a ceasefire resolution because the world sees that what is happening in Palestine is not self-defense, but ethnic cleansing and genocide. The refusal by the US to allow the world to speak with one voice is one of the reasons we are here.

Ceasefire is the way to ensure the safe return of all hostages. This is why families of Israeli hostages have been pleading with their government to agree to a ceasefire.

To say that Oct 7 was the end of a ceasefire is simply untrue. Prior to October 7th, 2023 was the deadliest year on record for Palestinians killed by Israel, with 507 Palestinians killed in the West Bank alone. Violence by Israeli forces and also by Israeli settlers (which has been encouraged by the Israeli government) had been escalating and unrelenting leading up to October 7th.

Israel's right to defend itself does not allow it to commit war crimes. Self-defense is not a blank check for genocide. Mass starvation is not self-defense. Mass displacement is not self-defense. Destroying 85 percent of Gaza's homes, as well as schools, hospitals, museums and houses of worship is not self-defense.

Israel has again attacked Palestinian civilians waiting in line to get aid. This time, Israeli forces have killed 80 and injured up to 200 people.

Palestinians do not have time; please act with courage and swiftness to pass this resolution.

Thank you,

## Iraheta, Alba

---

**From:** Ourite Assia <ourite.assia@pasadena.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2024 4:46 PM  
**To:** Márquez, Miguel  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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Dear City Manager Miguel Marquiz,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
2. Israel has accepted terms laid out by international negotiators for an extended ceasefire and drastic increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza. It is Hamas that has thus far rejected such a ceasefire.
3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,  
Ourite Assia  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210



## Kenebrew, Jerice

---

**From:** Yvette Assia <  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:08 AM  
**To:** Márquez, Miguel  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,  
Yvette Assia  
Piedmont, CA 94618

**From:** [Samar Atasy](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 1:50:19 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, “the last safe zone” in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Clemen Avalos](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [cityclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Ceasefire Now  
**Date:** Thursday, March 14, 2024 9:49:55 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I work/live in Pasadena.

Please vote "Yes" to the ceasefire resolution on Monday, March 18.

I do not want any more of my tax dollars to be used to murder children.

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, "the last safe zone" in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudhy, Oakland, and Pomona in calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire by voting "Yes" on Monday.

Thank you,

Maria C. Avalos  
91103

**From:** [Ash Baccus-Clark](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [cityclerk](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Hampton, Tyron](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 8:06:25 PM

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Thank you,  
Ashley



**ash baccus-clark** (she/her)  
artist | speculative neuroscientist | writer

<https://www.foxnews.com/world/2023/10/25/hamas-war-began-report-says-2023-10-25/>

[5] <https://harvardharrispoll.com>

Excerpts from Hamas Charter:

1. 'Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.' (Preamble)
2. 'The day the enemies usurp part of Muslim land, Jihad becomes the individual duty of every Muslim. In the face of the Jews' usurpation, it is compulsory that the banner of Jihad be raised.' (Article 15)
3. 'Ranks will close, fighters joining other fighters, and masses everywhere in the Islamic world will come forward in response to the call of duty, loudly proclaiming: 'Hail to Jihad!'. This cry will reach the heavens and will go on being resounded until liberation is achieved, the invaders vanquished and Allah's victory comes about.' (Article 33)
4. 'There is no solution for the Palestinian problem except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals, and international conferences are a waste of time and futile.' (Article 13)
5. 'The Day of Judgment will not come about until Muslims fight Jews and kill them. Then, the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will cry out: 'O Muslim, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him.' (Article 7) [3].

**From:** Gary Bachrach  
**To:** Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 12:51:36 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

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I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,  
Gary Bachrach

**From:** [Miryam Bachrach](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 4:35:43 PM

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Sincerely,  
Miryam Bachrach

## Sabha, Tamer

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**From:** susan bachar  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 11:51 PM  
**To:** Márquez, Miguel  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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## Kenebrew, Jerice

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**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:53 AM  
**To:** Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Kenebrew, Jerice; Soo, Christine; Haskett, John  
**Subject:** FW: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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**From:** Yasmine Badawy <[ybadawy@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:ybadawy@cityofpasadena.net)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:53:07 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Gordo, Victor <[vgordo@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:vgordo@cityofpasadena.net)>  
**Cc:** Hampton, Tyron <[THampton@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:THampton@cityofpasadena.net)>; Williams, Felicia <[fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net)>; Jones, Justin <[justinjones@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:justinjones@cityofpasadena.net)>; Masuda, Gene <[gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net)>; Rivas, Jessica <[jerivas@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:jerivas@cityofpasadena.net)>; dmadison@cityofpasadena.net <[dmadison@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:dmadison@cityofpasadena.net)>; Lyon, Jason <[jllyon@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:jllyon@cityofpasadena.net)>; cityclerk <[cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net)>  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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In Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide happening in Gaza. Since October the 7th, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces, mostly children and women. More than 75% of the city infrastructure has been destroyed and the medical system has collapsed where over 65,000 wounded and sick people are facing death or disability. Most recently, Israel has escaped the bombardment of Rafah, " the last safe zone " in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities including San Francisco, Oakland, Cudahy and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting "YES" on the resolution introduced by council member Rivas, this Monday,

Thank you,  
Yasmine Badawy

**From:** [aaron and/or lisa baggs](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 9:07:41 PM

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Thank you,

Lisa AB Baggs (she/her/hers)  
[Why I Use Pronouns with My Signature](#)

**From:** Afshan Baig  
**To:** Gordo, Victor  
**Cc:** Hampton, Tyron; Williams, Felicia; Jones, Justin; Masuda, Gene; Rivas, Jessica; Madison, Steve; Lyon, Jason; cityclerk  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18  
**Date:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 6:14:44 PM

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Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

---

**From:** Vicky Balmot ·  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 11:17 AM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Madison, Steve; Williams, Felicia; Márquez, Miguel; Jomsky, Mark; Jones, Justin; Masuda, Gene; Lyon, Jason; PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** City of Pasadena Middle East Policy is Wrong

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I am unable to attend today's meeting but wanted to express my extreme disapproval of the meeting and vote that is being held today concerning a cease fire in Gaza. In the strongest possible way I encourage you to dismiss the meeting and if that is not possible VOTE NO.

I worked in Pasadena on Lake Avenue for almost 20 years. I am now retired but still take an active interest in the City of Pasadena.

**City Councils should stay out of international politics in general and middle east policy in particular.**

People are demanding that city councils, whose public mandate is to be responsible for enacting city policies and laws, weigh in on an international issue as complex as the decades long fight between Israel and the Palestinians. The City Council is being used to spread anti-Israel and often anti-semitic sentiment in a public forum. This is a totally inappropriate use of city resources.

There are so many local issues that require your attention and community engagement. The unhoused. Mental health. Food insecurity. Veteran engagement and support. Hyperinflation. Housing shortages and housing affordability.

**If you just can't stay in your lane, create a resolution that the innocent hostages/captives should be immediately and unconditionally released.** Period. The hostages are the true victims in this war and deserve our full support and outrage.

Vicky Balmot

**From:** [Shifra Baltinester](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:47:44 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

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I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.com

Sincerely,  
Shifra Baltinester

**From:** [Shoshi Barkai](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 5:02:49 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

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3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,  
Shoshi Barkai

## Kenebrew, Jerice


---

**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:40 PM  
**To:** Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Kenebrew, Jerice; Soo, Christine; Haskett, John  
**Subject:** FW: Vote "YES" to Ceasefire Resolution

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From: Melanie Baker  
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 10:39:31 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Gordo, Victor  
Cc: cityclerk  
Subject: Vote "YES" to Ceasefire Resolution

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Dear Mayor, Councilmembers and Council staff:

I'm writing to urge you to vote YES on the ceasefire resolution when it comes up on the 18th. Pasadena should join the dozens of American cities that have passed ceasefire resolutions. Gaza is running out of time, and needs us to act now.

Pasadena city council has a proud history of standing for justice, even though the council does not exert direct control over national policy. They have spoken out on issues of grave importance in the past - massacres in Artsakh, reproductive freedom, protecting immigrants - this issue deserves the same consideration.

Approximately 40,000 Palestinians have been killed, with tens of thousands more under the rubble. Two-thirds of the dead are women and children. Famine and disease are spreading, and deaths will escalate sharply without an immediate ceasefire and an inflow of aid.

The United Nations has repeatedly voted to pass a ceasefire resolution because the world sees that what is happening in Palestine is not self-defense, but ethnic cleansing and genocide. The refusal by the US to allow the world to speak with one voice is one of the reasons we are here.

Ceasefire is the way to ensure the safe return of all hostages. This is why families of Israeli hostages have been pleading with their government to agree to a ceasefire.

To say that Oct 7 was the end of a ceasefire is simply untrue. Prior to October 7th, 2023 was the deadliest year on record for Palestinians killed by Israel, with 507 Palestinians killed in the West Bank alone. Violence by Israeli forces and also by Israeli settlers (which has been encouraged by the Israeli government) had been escalating and unrelenting leading up to October 7th.

Israel's right to defend itself does not allow it to commit war crimes. Self-defense is not a blank check for genocide. Mass starvation is not self-defense. Mass displacement is not self-defense. Destroying 85 percent of Gaza's homes, as well as schools, hospitals, museums and houses of worship is not self-defense.

Israel has again attacked Palestinian civilians waiting in line to get aid. This time, Israeli forces have killed 80 and injured up to 200 people.

Palestinians do not have time; please act with courage and swiftness to pass this resolution.

Thank you.

Melanie Baker




## Kenebrew, Jerice

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**From:** Fatemah Bahhour  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:26 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor  
**Cc:** cityclerk; PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Vote YES to Pass a Ceasefire Resolution

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Israel's right to defend itself does not allow it to commit war crimes. Self-defense is not a blank check for genocide. Mass starvation is not self-defense. Mass displacement is not self-defense. Destroying 85 percent of Gaza's homes, as well as schools, hospitals, museums and houses of worship is not self-defense.

Israel has again attacked Palestinian civilians waiting in line to get aid. This time, Israeli forces have killed 80 and injured up to 200 people.

Palestinians do not have time; please act with courage and swiftness to pass this resolution.

**From:** [Michelle Bakhash](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 2:54:38 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
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The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,  
Michelle Bakhash

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)


---

**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 6:48 AM  
**To:** Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Kenebrew, Jerice; Soo, Christine; Haskett, John  
**Subject:** FW: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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From: jamie bailey  
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 6:47:25 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Gordo, Victor  
Cc: Hampton, Tyron; Williams, Felicia; Jones, Justin; Masuda, Gene; Rivas, Jessica; Madison, Steve; Lyon, Jason; cityclerk  
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, "the last safe zone" in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting "Yes" on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,

Jamie Bailey

**From:** [Christian baer](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 10:54:19 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, “the last safe zone” in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,

Christian Baer

**From:** [brady.barinaga](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [cityclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Please Vote "YES" to Ceasefire Resolution  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:08:37 PM

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Dear Mayor Victor Gordo,

Please vote "Yes" to the resolution condemning the genocide in Gaza and calling for a ceasefire on Monday March 18.

There is a genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Rafah, the so-called "last safe zone" in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge has most recently been bombarded by Israel.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

Human Rights Watch agrees with the International Court of Justice that Israel's actions in Gaza constitute a genocide and urges other countries to "use all forms of leverage, including sanctions and embargoes, to press the Israeli government to comply with the court's binding orders in the genocide case."

Human Rights Watch has also previously called the conditions in the West Bank and Gaza "apartheid" conditions.

The Israeli human rights group, B'T Selem, accuses Israel of War Crimes in Gaza and states, "...this policy is not new, but has been implemented towards Gaza for many years. The death, destruction, pain and horror it has wrought have led to nothing but more horror."

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudhy, Oakland, and Pomona in calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire by voting "Yes" on Monday. Pasadena can do our part by passing a ceasefire resolution now.

Brady Barinaga

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

---

**From:** Shifra Baltinester  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 3:48 PM  
**To:** Márquez, Miguel  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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Dear City Manager Miguel Marquiz,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
2. Israel has accepted terms laid out by international negotiators for an extended ceasefire and drastic increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza. It is Hamas that has thus far rejected such a ceasefire.
3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.com

## Kenebrew, Jerice


---

**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 11:06 AM  
**To:** Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Kenebrew, Jerice; Soo, Christine; Haskett, John  
**Subject:** FW: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

---

From: Joan Abu Bakir  
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 11:05:29 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Gordo, Victor  
Cc: Hampton, Tyron; Williams, Felicia; Jones, Justin; Masuda, Gene; Rivas, Jessica; Madison, Steve; Lyon, Jason; cityclerk  
Subject: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

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Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

---

**From:** Shoshi Barkai  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 4:59 PM  
**To:** Márquez, Miguel  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.



## Sabha, Tamer

---

**From:** Zo Barracano  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 6:34 AM  
**To:** Márquez, Miguel  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

**From:** [Zachariah Barghouti](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [Hampton, Tyron](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18  
**Date:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 7:59:17 AM

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, “the last safe zone” in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,  
Zachariah


## Kenebrew, Jerice

---

**From:** Sophie Barrett  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 16, 2024 11:15 PM  
**To:** Jones, Justin  
**Cc:** cityclerk; PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Ceasefire Now

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Dear Council Member Justin Jones,

I live and study in Pasadena. It's my favorite home I've ever known.

Please vote "Yes" to the ceasefire resolution on Monday, March 18.

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, "the last safe zone" in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire by voting "Yes" on Monday.

Thank you,

Civil War, and numerous other global issues.

Sadly, ceasefire resolutions have been considered in many city councils in the past few months, and each time rather than enhance peace, they have brought with them vitriol, which has contributed to the 400% increase in anti-Semitism in this country [4]. We have most recently witnessed alarming Neo-Nazi marches in Nashville, the apprehension of an individual plotting to harm the Jewish community in Indiana, physical harm inflicted on Jews on college campuses, the murder of a Jewish man in San Diego and the unsettling cancellation of all college classes in Queens due to a credible terrorist threat.

Normalizing hate against Jews fuels white supremacy, which is seeing an unprecedented growth. The normalization of hate against Jews inadvertently is going to impact ALL minorities. We don't need any more hate in this country. We cannot regress as a country.

Jewish people do not advocate for unnecessary conflicts; it's not in our nature. Our priority is the safe return of our innocent civilians who are being held hostage, possibly under very violent conditions. Additionally, we must protect ourselves from a hostile terrorist organization that harbors destructive intentions towards Jews. Let's be clear, Hamas is waging a war against the Jewish people and democracy itself. Senior Hamas official Mahmoud Al-Zahar stated on December 12, 2022, "The entire 510 million square kilometers of Planet Earth will come under [a system] where there is no injustice, no oppression, no treachery, no Zionism, no treacherous Christianity." (source: <http://tinyurl.com/5n8298r4>)

Furthermore, with all the international conflicts that have not merited your attention, deciding to suddenly weigh in on Israel's foreign policy would send a dual message: a) that a democracy has no right to defend itself against barbaric terrorism, and b) that you hold Israel to a different standard than other countries.

The European Parliament has passed a stipulation that any call for a ceasefire should be conditional on the complete dismantling of Hamas and the immediate and unconditional release of hostages. We hope you would agree.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Shoshi Barkai

82% of Americans support Israel's fight against Hamas" (Harvard Harris Poll). [5]

References:

[1] CAIR toolkit: [https://www.cair.com/press\\_releases/cair-releases-community-toolkit-on-promoting-gaza-ceasefire-resolutions-by-state-local-governments/](https://www.cair.com/press_releases/cair-releases-community-toolkit-on-promoting-gaza-ceasefire-resolutions-by-state-local-governments/)

[2] <https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/4336113-rubio-activists-Israel-hamas-cease-fire>

[3] [https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th\\_century/hamas.asp](https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp)

[4] <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-antisemitic-incidents-up-about-400-since-israel-hamas-war-began-report-says-2023-10-25/>

[5] <https://harvardharrispoll.com>

Excerpts from Hamas Charter:

1. 'Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.' (Preamble)
2. 'The day the enemies usurp part of Muslim land, Jihad becomes the individual duty of every Muslim. In the face of the Jews' usurpation, it is compulsory that the banner of Jihad be raised.' (Article 15)
3. 'Ranks will close, fighters joining other fighters, and masses everywhere in the Islamic world will come forward in response to the call of duty, loudly proclaiming: 'Hail to Jihad!'. This cry will reach the heavens and will go on being resounded until liberation is achieved, the invaders vanquished and Allah's victory comes about.' (Article 33)
4. 'There is no solution for the Palestinian problem except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals, and international conferences are a waste of time and futile.' (Article 13)
5. 'The Day of Judgment will not come about until Muslims fight Jews and kill them. Then, the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will cry out: 'O Muslim, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him.' (Article 7) [3].

## Iraheta, Alba

---

**From:** laura bashan  
**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2024 5:01 PM  
**To:** Márquez, Miguel  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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Dear City Manager Miguel Marquiz,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

I feel it is important to remind you of the following:

1. A ceasefire existed on October 6 but was broken by Hamas on October 7 when they brutally attacked Israel, killing 1,200 innocent civilians and kidnapping 253 people – ranging in age from 9 months to 85 years old.
2. Israel has accepted terms laid out by international negotiators for an extended ceasefire and drastic increase in humanitarian aid to Gaza. It is Hamas that has thus far rejected such a ceasefire.
3. There would be a permanent ceasefire tomorrow if Hamas would release all hostages, lay down its arms, and allow Israelis and Palestinians to rebuild in peace and security.

The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,  
laura bashan

## Iraheta, Alba

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**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2024 8:32 PM  
**To:** Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta); Kenebrew, Jerice; Soo, Christine; Haskett, John  
**Subject:** FW: Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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**From:** M. Theresa Basile  
**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2024 8:32:08 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Gordo, Victor <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Cc:** Hampton, Tyron <THampton@cityofpasadena.net>; Williams, Felicia <fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net>; Jones, Justin <justinjones@cityofpasadena.net>; Masuda, Gene <gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net>; Rivas, Jessica <jerivas@cityofpasadena.net>; Madison, Steve <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; Lyon, Jason <jlyon@cityofpasadena.net>; cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18

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Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

I have been deeply alarmed by the genocide occurring in Gaza. Since Oct. 7, over 38,000 people have been killed by Israeli forces. Most recently, Israel has escalated bombardment of Rafah, “the last safe zone” in Gaza where more than 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are seeking refuge.

Additionally, a majority of people in Gaza are facing starvation due to humanitarian aid being blocked with the UN warning of famine as soon as May.

It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday.

Thank you,  
M. Theresa Basile

**From:** [mory barak](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"  
**Date:** Friday, March 15, 2024 12:42:23 PM

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Dear Mayor Gordo,

I am writing you today to urge you not to adopt any biased "ceasefire" resolution that would fuel divisions and hate in our community, while harming efforts to end the horrific October 7th War.

I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

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The type of "ceasefire" you are being pressured to support would not bring a just or lasting peace. What it would do is help Hamas, a genocidal terrorist group, maintain its grip on power in Gaza and continue its endless war against Israel. While I do not believe municipal governments should address international affairs at all, if you choose to adopt a resolution on this issue it must include a clear call for Hamas to release all hostages and surrender now.

I know that the Pasadena City Council wants to do the right thing and bring about an end to the humanitarian crisis, but this symbolic gesture will do nothing more than bring more hate and animosity towards the Jewish community.

I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

Sincerely,  
mory barak



## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

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**From:** Judy Balas <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 12:05 PM  
**To:** Márquez, Miguel  
**Subject:** Vote NO on biased calls for "ceasefire"

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I want an end to the fighting and suffering in Gaza and Israel, as I'm sure you do. However, biased "ceasefire" city council resolutions have been shown to have no impact on this complex conflict. In fact, what the Jewish community has witnessed is that resolutions like this actually fuel more hate towards Jews and anyone else who does not believe cities should weigh in on international issues. There are many examples of such hate, including in the Oakland and Long Beach city councils.

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I urge you not to adopt a resolution and use your energy to bring people together, rather than further dividing us.

**From:** [Nayantara Banerjee](#)  
**To:** [Gordo, Victor](#)  
**Cc:** [Hampton, Tyrone](#); [Williams, Felicia](#); [Jones, Justin](#); [Masuda, Gene](#); [Rivas, Jessica](#); [Madison, Steve](#); [Lyon, Jason](#); [cityclerk](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on the Ceasefire Resolution on Monday, March 18  
**Date:** Sunday, March 17, 2024 1:13:40 PM

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It is critical that we respond firmly and strongly with a ceasefire resolution. Please join the over 70 US cities, including San Francisco, Cudahy, Oakland, and Pomona in voting for a ceasefire by voting “Yes” on the resolution introduced by Councilmember Rivas, this Monday

Thank you,

Nayantara